Ypsilanti Catholic

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June 12, 1977

Just A Word ...

by Fr. Harvey

Next Sunday, June 19th, the United States' first male citizen will be declared a Saint by Pope Paul VI. He is Bishop John Neumann (pronounced "noiman"), the fourth bishop of Philadelphia. I will have the fortune of accompanying the Lansing Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome for that celebration as I take some of my vacation.

Bishop Neumann was born in the year 1811 in Bohemia. After studying at the Archdiocesan seminary in Prague, he passed his ordination examinations. However, because of the abundance of priests at the time, his Bishop did not call him to Holy Orders! With no date set for his ordination, the 25 year old man set his thoughts on missionary service in the United States. He set sail on April 11, 1836 and arrived in New York. On June 25th of the same year, the Bishop of New York happily ordained him a priest, and two days later assigned him to minister with the only priest the Bishop had available in New York State west of Rochester.

It's interesting to note that our soon to be Saint began his priestly ministry just about the time the Catholic community in Ypsilanti was being organized. (The first church building was begun here in 1839.) He came to this country whose immigrants were starving for ministry from the church, from a country which had such an abundance of priests that the Bishop felt he could ordain no more. Our own condition at the present time is hardly the latter. In the next few years, we will begin to experience more acutely the insufficient number of ordained clergy adequate to serve our growing Catholic population. I could not help thinking of this last Sunday as Fr. Kerner, one of St. John's three native sons to be called to Holy Orders, celebrated the Baccalaureate Mass for our graduating seniors, especially in his present position as Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Detroit. It will be my constant prayer as I make this pilgrimage for the canonization of Blessed John Neumann, that many more of our young people respond to the Lord's invitation to follow Him in a life of dedicated service to His Church as priests and in other established ministries serving God's people.

The Congregation for the Causes of Saints has concluded after careful study, that three persons are alive today because of the personal intercession of Bishop Neumann. Eva Benassi, 13 years old, of Sassuolo, Italy, J. Kent Lenahan, 19 years of age, of Villanova, Pennsylvania and Michael Flanigan, 6 years of age of West Philadelphia were cured through the personal intercession of Bishop Neumann. The cures of these young people have been declared "scientifically and medically unexplainable." Considering the fact that Bishop Neumann was only 48 years of age at the time of his death, and that the above young people's cures are attributed to his personal intercession with the Lord, we may just have a Saint to assist us with our vocational crisis. I'm willing to try and to hope.

Parish Seniors Honored

Last Sunday, at the 9:00 a.m. Mass, the following 22 parish Seniors were honored with a special Mass celebrated by former graduate, Father Terry Kerner:

Janet Tardiff
Cathy Martell
Karin Wawrzaszek
Mike Williams
Julie Smith
Sally Buschell
Martin Greiner
Glen Groshans
Debbie Gillman
Phyllis Parks
Marie Aparicio
Jim Eberts
Jan Eberts
Laura Alton
Ron Meier
Patrick Birdsall
Geraldine Brady
Tim Walters
Catherine Burgard
Lynne Mentley
Chris Soraruf
Mike Soraruf

Seniors and their families enjoyed a special parish breakfast in the parish hall which had been prepared by caterers Leo and Mae Hayes with the help of Emma Mortimore and Lottie Connor. Those serving included Denise and Polly Sprague, Dorothy Morgan, Ida Frederick, Pearl Jancke and granddaughters, Anna Marie and Mary. The Breakfast was sponsored by the Parish Activities Commission under the direction of Natalie Bowyer and Rita Sprague.

We thank all those who helped make this day special for the Seniors and congratulate our graudates and wish them God's blessings in all their endeavors.

To celebrate the life and canonization of BISHOP JOHN NEUMANN, C.SS.R.

This life that is being honored for its sanctity was most discouraging when being lived. After John Neumann's ordination the force that kept him going was his obedience to his priestly obligations and, eventually, to his Redemptorist rule. His prayers and Divine Office were vital to him. His labors were among distantly scattered parishioners, and he is known to have walked many miles each day to reach remote settlements in the Niagara area. In that difficult assignment, John Neumann lived the resolution he had penned in his private spiritual journal: "Whenever opportunity presents itself, I shall offer my services to my fellowmen. Whenever I meet someone, I shall treat him as though he were Our Lord Himself." No wonder that his parishioners, most of whom were immigrants, recognized him as a devoted friend and and extraordinary pastor.

His desires for a more contemplative life were anything but satisfied after he joined the Redemptorists. He was sent to a large church in Pittsburgh and was assigned to finish the building and liquidate the debt on it. This was far removed from his wishes, but he obediently accomplished his tasks there and later was made head of the Redemptorist Order in the U.S. Again administrative work was not his desire; his heart was with the poor and the immigrants. But he obediently tackled the job, voiced his suggestions for any improvements in the Order, and did much to make it strong. His spirituality became evident; and when a replacement was needed for Bishop of Philadelphia, John Neumann's name was proposed and accepted.

Being fourth bishop of Philadelphia was just about the last thing he would ever have wanted but he accomplished momentous things that made his diocese, the Church in America, and even the nation strong. Quietly and firmly he took hold of education and established the parochial school system and the first Board of Catholic Education in the country. He brought the Forty Hours Devotion to the Eucharist to the United States and was often seen attending at every church in his diocese. The 41st International Eucharistic Congress, held in Philadelphia last year, recognized this early and energetic promotion of Eucharistic Devotion in the United States.

Parish Nuptial

Mr. and Mrs. John Diefenbacher

John G. Diefenbacher and Cathy Ann Trout solemnized their covenant of holy marriage during a Nuptial Mass celebrated by Fr. Harvey on Saturday evening, June 4, 1977.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert E. Diefenbacher of Franklin. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Trout of this parish.

Richard Diefenbacher, twin brother of the groom and Melinda Trout, sister of the bride, served as main witnesses.

Music for the celebration was provided by Mrs. Nancy Wagner, vocalist, accompanied by Mrs. Carole Zakrzewski, guitarist. Mr. Louis Potts was the organist.

The newlyweds will reside in Ann Arbor. Best wishes, John and Cathy!

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Invitations ...

Corpus Christi Evensong

The staff and choir of St. Mary's Student Chapel will present an Evensong Liturgy on the evening of June 12, the Feast of Corpus Christi, at 8:00 p.m. The service will also include Exposition and Benediction of the most Blessed Sacrament.

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Council of Catholic Women

☐ The quarterly meeting of the Washtenaw Area Council of Catholic Women will be at St. Thomas, Ann Arbor, June 15, 1977.

Registration at 9:30 a.m.

Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Business meeting following Mass.

Potluck salad luncheon at noon. Bring salad to pass and table service.

Afternoon speaker will be Pat Kay who will talk on "Problem Pregnancy."

Anyone interested in attending kindly call Sharon Patterson 482-2093 or Mil Kerner 482-9674 by Tuesday, June 14th.

Wedding Banns

II - John Henson & Michele Ouellette

School Bus Drivers Needed

...**both regular and substitute** from 1 to 11/2 hrs. Pay is $3.50 per hr. Call John Sulliven for information at 483-5735.

Garage Sale

Parochial School Bus Fund will have a garage sale June 17 & 18. Call Mary Ann Tice at 434-1260 for more information.

Pick Up June 25 & 26 for newspapers for the same fund group.

Parish Feast Day Coming

The Feast of St. John the Baptist is celebrated in the church calendar of saints on June 24th each year. Here at St. John's that is a special day because it is a special feast for us and we usually celebrate in various ways. Remember the grilled hamburgers on the patio last year and the dance the year before and the ice cream socials, etc. that have been part of the celebration in past years??? It is a good time to get together and share the name of our patron and so we will look forward to a celebration on Friday, June 24th. This year we will have a potluck meal together in the parish hall and served with our newly finished kitchen conveniences. We have the silver and dishes so you need only bring a dish and yourselves and family. If you have any 50's/60's records, or even any before or after that time, bring them along. Maybe we can get a nostalgic dance or two going.

We will supply beer for the adults and pop for the kids.

Let's plan on a good Friday evening of celebration of who we are as members of St. John the Baptist Parish ... it is really cause to celebrate.

Parish Council Agenda

June 13, 1977

I. Opening Prayer
II. Minutes
III. Commission Reports:
A. Administration - Dave Wheeler
1. Financial Report
2. Property Disposal
3. Repair of Parking Lot
4. Budget
5. Recommendation for Scholarship Fund
6. Recommendation for Extra Envelope
B. Education - Carole Dyska
1. Results of Open Parent Meeting
2. Catechist Meeting
3. Youth Survey
4. 8th Grade Survey
5. Family Picnic
6. Natural Family Planning
7. Parenting Session
8. Special Education
9. Area Board
C. Parish Activities - Rita Sprague
1. Council Voting
2. Graduation Breakfast
3. Festival Planning
D. Service - Kathleen Wysocki
1. Coffee and Donuts
2. Senior Citizens
3. St. Vincent de Paul Awards
4. Parish Feast
5. Food Collections
E. Worship - no reports
IV. Comments from the floor
V. Old Business - Gabriel Richard High School Fund Raising
VI. New Business -
1. Budget Approval
2. Parking Lot
VII. Announcements
1. Sr. Marilyn Barnett's acceptance
2. Council and Commission Workday

Intercessary Prayer

"Our soul waits for the Lord.
He is our help and shield.
Yea, our heart is glad in Him,
Because we trust in His holy name.
Let thy steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
Even as we hope in Thee."

In faith and love we lift up to you, my Lord,

Our Parish Team, bless and love them.

Our catechists. We were richly blessed by these faithful servants.

They, by their living example hold the truth of faith alive and growing in our community of St. John's. Truly God has poured His grace upon His people.

Sister Marilyn Barnett who will serve in the music ministry as we continue to sing joyfully unto the Lord.

Robyn and Sara who have new life in Christ in the sacrament of Baptism.

Lord, we pray

For school bus drivers.

For the sick, the suffering and the lonely.

For our many St. John's newcomers.

Lord, we believe you fed 5,000 as you blessed five loaves and two fish. Lord feed us more of your love and mercy. Multiply it upon your people. Give us your Body and Blood, for as often as we eat this Bread and drink the Cup we proclaim Your death until Your coming. Come, Lord Jesus.

Mass Schedule

Monday, June 13 - St. Anthony of Padua, Priest-doctor
7:00 a.m. Frank Panek, req. by Mrs. Frank Panek
2:30 p.m. Alma Monaghan, req. by Betty & Kathleen Schuck (at Parkview Nursing Home)

Tuesday, June 14 - Weekday
7:00 a.m. NO MASS
5:15 p.m. Milford & Agnes Brown, req. by Don & Ann Courtois

Wednesday, June 15 - Weekday
7:00 a.m. George J. Max, req. by Mrs. George Max
9:00 a.m. NO MASS

Thursday, June 16 - Weekday
7:00 a.m. Charles Parsons, Anniv., req. by his wife
9:00 a.m. NO MASS

Friday, June 17 - Sacred Heart of Jesus
7:00 a.m. Paul Groshans, req. by his parents

Saturday, June 18 - Weekday
9:00 a.m. NO MASS
5:00 p.m. Charles Stein Sr., req. by the Charles Stein family

Sunday, June 19 - Father's Day
7:00 a.m. Vincent Southwell, req. by Mr. & Mrs. James Mite
9:00 a.m. Rose Kelly, req. by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Northrup
11:00 a.m. Henry Ertz, req. by his daughter, Imelda Haug
12:30 p.m. Helen McCarthy, req. by Julia McDermott

Financial Barometer June 5, 1977

Sunday Offertory $3,911.47
Parish Improvement 201.00

Be good to yourself by ...

...attending Mass each weekend - at home or away

...relaxing in the summer sun without forgetting you are part of God's family.

...beginning your trips with prayer - visit in Church asking God's protection. Stop in again when you return to say thanks. It really isn't old fashioned.

...remembering your offertory support here at home. Many submit envelopes in advance. Others make them up. Either way shows your sense of Christian stewardship.

My prayer each Sunday at Mass will be for your well-being during this pleasant season called summer.

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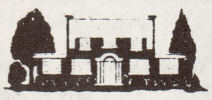

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